

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 171711

FOR AMBASSADOR WELLS FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY MAYNES

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S ECOSOC SPEECH.

1. THE CONCEPTUAL SECTION OF THE SPEECH LOOKS FINE WITH ONE EXCEPTION. YOU CAN'T BE SO SPECIFIC ABOUT WHAT THE PRESIDENT INTENDS TO DO AT THE BONN SUMMIT ON NORTH/SOUTH ISSUES. WE SUGGEST THE FOLLOWING SUBSTITUTE FOR THAT SECTION:

QUOTE: PRESIDENT CARTER HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THE ISSUES DURING HIS MEETING WITH LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN LEADERS IN PANAMA LAST MONTH. AS A RESULT, I CAN TELL YOU THAT MY GOVERNMENT IS COMMITTED AT THE HIGHEST POLITICAL LEVEL TO EXPANDING AREAS OF AGREEMENT AND CONVERGENCE ON NORTH/SOUTH ISSUES. THE LEADERS OF THE INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES WHO ARE MEETING IN BONN THIS MONTH WILL DEVOTE PRIORITY ATTENTION TO THIS THEME. END
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QUOTE

2. WE HAVE DISCUSSED THE OVERVIEW SECTION OF THE SPEECH WITH HORMATS AND WATSON. THEY AGREE WITH OUR FEELING THAT LAYING OUT OUR INITIATIVE IN SUCH DETAIL WOULD BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE AND COULD HAVE THE EFFECT OF SMOTHERING IT. WE SUGGEST A BRIEFER AND LESS EXPLICIT DISCUSSION OF

THIS ISSUE, LEAVING THE DETAILS TO BE FILLED IN IN
CORRIDOR CONVERSATIONS. AT THIS STAGE IT SEEMS TO US THAT
IF OTHERS ARE NOT PREPARED TO PICK UP THE IDEAS WE HAVE
PUT FORWARD AND ADVANCE THEM IN PUBLIC AND IN PRIVATE,
WE WILL SOON REACH A DEADEND. VANCE

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